## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-03 USIA-06 DODE-00 /044 W

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R 150949Z AUG 75 FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5921 INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 9873

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJ: CISCO TWO: VOA BROADCAST

REF: ADDIS 9832

- 1. EMB WAS DISTURBED TO HEAR VOA BROADCAST CONCERNING KIDNAPPED KAGNEW AMERICANS ASSERT THAT KAGNEW "IS CLOSING DOWN" (REFTEL). UNLESS WASHDC AGENCIES HAVE CHANGED THEIR MINDS ABOUT ESSENTIALITY OF KAGNEW WITHOUT TELLING US, THIS IS A MISSTATEEMENT OF FACT THAT COULD BE VERY TROUBLESOME HERE. APPARENTLY VOA NEWSROOM FAILED TO CHECK OUT FACTS ABOUT ALLEGED CLOSURE OF AN IMPORTANT US INSTALLATION BEFORE GOING ON THE AIR.
- 2. WE SPECULATE THAT VOA MAY HAVE BASED STATEMENT ON LANGUAGE IN EPMG PRESS RELEASE JULY 18 (ADDIS 8651) "FACILITY IS NOW IN LAST STAGE OF ITS CLOSING DOWN" (WHICH WAS LATER SUBJECT OF STRONG DEMURRAL BY USG). IF SO, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW SO THAT WE CAN GIVE IT AS EXCUSE, ALBEIT FEEBLE, IN EXPLANATION TO EPMG IF THEY BECOME NECESSARY.
- 3. THERE IS GOOD CHANCE THAT EMB WILL HEAR ABOUT THIS FROM EPMG, WHICH HAS BEEN MAKING ASSERTIONS ABOUT CLOSURE OF KAGNEW THAT EMB HAS BEEN ENDEAVORING TO REFUTE. EMB HAS TWICE REQUESTED (BEGINNING ADDIS 9103, 30 JULY) AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT FROM WASHDC ABOUT US INTENTION TO RETAIN NAVCOMMUNIT, FOR PASSING ON PAPER TO EPMG. THIS ERROR BY VOA CONFIDENTIAL

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MAKES IT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN BEFORE THAT WE CLEAR AWAY

ANY CONFUSION WITHIN EPMG BY GIVING THEM SUCH A STATEMENT.
WE NEED THE STATEMENT SOON, HOPEFULLY TO PASS TO MOFA BEFORE EPMG
HAS A CHANCE TO EXPLOIT MISSTATEMENT TO EPMG ADVANTAGE.
HIIMMEI.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: KIDNAPPING, RADIO BROADCASTING, CLOSURE OF OFFICES

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: CISCO TWO: VOA BROADCAST TAGS: PINS, CASC, ET, VOA, (CAMPBELL, STEVEN C), (HARRELL, JAMES J) To: STATE

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